(b) the difference in figures between 31st December, 1986 and 31st December, 1996, according to Government evaluation;

(c) the total number of cases registered for illegal hunting of lions, so far, and action taken on the registered complaints; and

(d) the measures taken for breeding and increasing the number of lions in Gir forests?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Although the population of lions in the Gir forests of Gujarat has been estimated since 1936, six censuses have been conducted after declaration of the Gir Sanctuary during the years 1968, 1974, 1979, 1985, 1990 and 1995.

(b) No census was conducted in December, 1986 and December, 1996. However, the population of lions was estimated at 239 in May 1985 and 304 in May 1995, showing an increase of 65 lions during this period.

(c) According to the State Govt. of Gujarat 30 cases of lion poaching have been registered since 1981-82, all of which were investigated and either departmental or court proceedings were carried out.

(d) An area of 1412.12 sq. km. of the Gir forest which is the habitat of lions, has been constituted into a protected area, comprising 1153.41 sq. km. notified as a sanctuary and 258.41 sq. km. notified as a national park under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The Asiatic Lion is fully protected against hunting and commercial exploitation. Habitat protection and management activities are also undertaken such as habitat improvement, water conservation, wildlife health monitoring etc. Under in situ condition, breeding takes place if favourable conditions are available to the lions. No artificial breeding programme is necessary. As a result of these measures, the population of Asiatic Lions has gradually increased from 177 in 1968 to 304 in 1995.

Inclusion of Udaipur Lake under NLCP

2148. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have selected Udaipur Lake under the National Lake Conservation Plan; if so, the main objectives of this project;

(b) whether any feasibility response has been prepared/discussed between the State Experts Committee and officials of the Ministry of Environment, so far; and

(c) if so, the present stage of this project and the likely cost involved therein and agreed to be shared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir. The objectives of the proposed national lake Conservation Plan are:

(i) Prevention of pollution from point and non-point sources.

(ii) Catchment area treatment.

(iii) R&D studies on floral and faunal activities and related ecological aspects.

(iv) Other activities depending on the lake specific conditions such as integrated development approach including interface with human populations.

(b) and (c) Discussions on pre-feasibility reports have been held between the State Government and officials of Ministry of Environment and Forests. The total cost of the project proposal was about Rs. 111 crores to be shared between the Central and the State Government on 50:50 basis.

"महानगरों में वायु-प्रदूषक तत्वों की अनुज्ञेय सीमा"

2149. **श्री पराग चालिहा:** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) महानगरों में विभिन्न वायु-प्रदूषक तत्वों तथा कार्बन मोनोक्साइड इत्यादि की अधिकतम अनुज्ञेय सीमा क्या है;